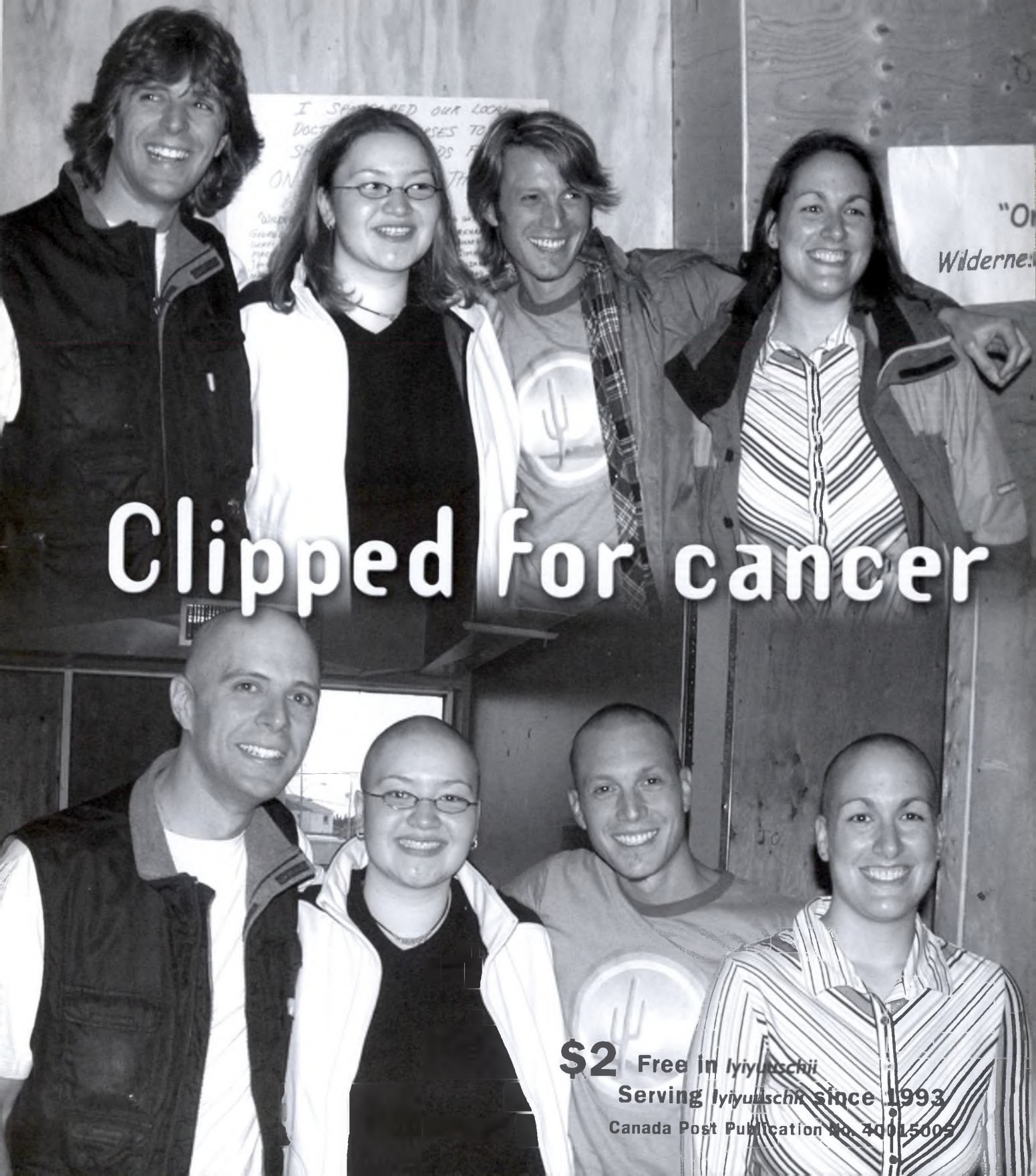


# Nation

Volume 12, No. 14 • May 27, 2005



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# Fighting disease in our communities

By Steve Bonspiel

There are many ailments that affect Native people at much higher rates than they do the Canadian public. These include cancer, diabetes and some diseases that are unique to one Nation, like Cree-leukoencephalopathy and Cree leukoencephalitis.

It's an uphill battle fighting these diseases, but our health care professionals have answered the call on many occasions.

Take, for example, the recent cancer awareness campaign in Chisasibi. Doctors, nurses, hospital personnel and community members all stepped up to the plate and had their heads shaved so teenagers with cancer can have a brighter future.

The campaign, launched by the "On the Tip of the Toes Foundation" was a huge success. In only one week, Chisasibi community members raised \$8,000 and shaved 25 heads.

The foundation's name comes from the belief that if people stand on their tiptoes, they can see farther, and that's what they are trying to help children do: see beyond today.

The foundation provides children with opportunities to go on expeditions to various locales across Canada with kids who are going through the same things they are. They even visited Ouje-Bougoumou a couple years back.

The fact that professionals put themselves out there by having their heads shaved publicly really says a lot about their character, their love for the community and their willingness

to help. I take my hat off to every one of them.

These amazing achievements aren't only done by health professionals, however.

Every year, the parent company of the Northern stores, the Northwest Company, stages a Canada-wide campaign to fight diabetes.

The company sells paper snowmen for \$2 each, with the proceeds going directly to the Canadian Diabetes Foundation.

Northern stores in Chisasibi and Wemindji are doing something about the problem and at the same time, consistently outselling large urban centres like Regina and Winnipeg year after year.

Together the stores sold over \$26,000 worth of snowmen for the Christmas season.

This determination to bring the diabetic epidemic under control is truly inspiring.

Northwest also sends participants to Hawaii for a marathon to raise funds for the same cause. Running is a healthy, active sport and it's exactly what we need to do to fight these diseases, run them right out of our lives.

Despite these determined and strong-willed people, we can still do more as individuals.

Eating healthier, exercising and, as much as possible, living a happy life are keys to being a good parent and a good person.

For everyone who is trying to live that way, keep up the great work and you will reap the benefits!

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## on the cover

Photo by: George Diamond

Design: R. Lawson



# Off to a bad start



The reports came in slowly, each word carefully pronounced over the crackle of the HF radio. Camp by camp, the intelligence grew to another inconclusive conclusion. The geese were not showing as in the past years. The camps slowly emptied, children were brought back to school and workers gladly went back to work, due to the intensive inactivity back at the camp.

Then, a gushing geyser of frantic satellite and cell phone calls to my headquarters confirmed my greatest fear. Yes, the geese were coming. I had misinterpreted the information from the south and scheduled my goose break two weeks early and shot only a few, not enough to break my back with the load.

Just a generation ago, grumbles from the goose camps were few and far between. But today the grumbling is as acceptable as white noise from a cheap sound system, just noticeable enough to be there. Such is modern-day camping and hunting. Record-breaking spring thaws and the rapid dehydration of ponds and swamps are the telltale signs of the global warming we have come to know on an annual basis.

Perhaps it is not as noticeable in the south, where warm weather is always welcome, no matter the season. But we Cree are conditioned to harsh weather systems that bring the goose down to shooting height, not the cloudless, endless melanoma of sunny days that create frustrated hunters by the dozens.

Time to change with the season I say, and get down to the grind of daily life and school. By the way, I have a solution to the goose break

and summer doldrums that plague the local schools. Have school year-round with three major breaks: spring goose, fall and Christmas! That will end the summer boredom and create another school season. We have only a few lousy weeks break for July anyways, so why don't we put this to a test?

Down south, the only reason why school was closed for the summer was to send the kids back home to toil in the fields and farms, practicing their traditional harvesting, just as we do in the spring and fall. We could probably fill in all the gaps that are interrupted by our traditional time off and actually accomplish producing more graduates to boot! To make it even better, we could say that summer school is work, and pay students to go to school during the hotter months.

I know that this idea may not be the ideal for those who have summer vacation ingrained in their genes, but who says it can't work? It's worth a try. I know that in the day, back in the 1970s, we had nothing to do but wander around all night thinking of ways to torture teachers in the fall, or planning what to do after supper the next night. But over all, we were bored senseless. If it weren't for the new developments in the north, I'm sure some folks' names would be changed to Fence-Post-Sitters, or Sun-Avoiders, or even worse, Dabowee-ashers.

I used to anticipate summer holidays as a teen, but now that I work year-round, I tend to look forward to the traditional breaks eagerly, as I am afraid that those days may go the way of ho-hum summer breaks.

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Photo by Jimmy Sam

The group of health professionals and community members who shaved their heads for a good cause.

# Chisasibi fights cancer

Community, health professionals, raise money to fight deadly disease

By Steve Bonspiel

The people of Chisasibi have vowed to fight cancer and they took the first step towards that when doctors, nurses and locals got together to raise money and awareness for teenagers suffering from the disease.

"The fundraiser was done for the On the Tip of the Toes Foundation that benefits teenagers who are fighting cancer," said Dr. Stephanie Ferland, who was instrumental in launching the campaign April 28. "It's called that because when you're on the tip of your toes you can always see a little bit farther."

The idea came from a nurse working for Cree Patient Services. "Jasmine Larouche's niece was dealing with cancer and she participated in that big shave-o-thon last year in Montreal," said Dr. Ferland. "She convinced us basically to help that foundation."

The Marie-Hélène Côté fundraiser is named after Larouche's niece, who died from cancer a few years ago, and couldn't have got off the ground without the support of the community.

"I may have been the one that initiated it, but I had a lot of help," Dr. Ferland told the *Nation*. "Without Brighter Future's Nelly Bobbish, who did a big amount of work in

organizing all the events, it would not have happened. She organized the setup, and Brighter Future was there every afternoon for a week, collecting money at the commercial centre, and advertising. They did a great job."

The hefty sum of \$8,000 raised in only a week will help the foundation send sick kids on trips to many different places across Canada. One of those trips a couple years ago brought the children to Ouje-Bougoumou where they experienced the warmth and beauty of Eeyou Istchee's newest community.

The event, held at the commercial centre, included music, a stylist and a hair clipper. In all, 25 heads were shaved in support of cancer patients.

"It's just hair," said Melanie Lameboy, 19. "There was no hesitation at all on my part when I heard about it. I said, 'I'm doing it and that's it'. There are a lot of reasons why I did it, including a few personal reasons."

"When I heard what the foundation was about, I thought it was a very good cause for teenagers, kids my age that have the disease. There were no other girls from the community that did it and that made me want to do it even more."

Dr. Ferland, who has been in Chisasibi for almost three



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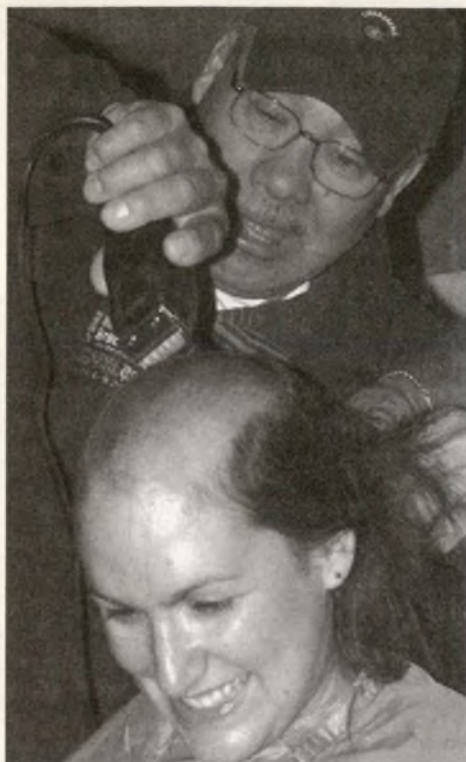
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Dr. Stephanie Ferland gets a little trim for a good cause

years, says the attitude towards cancer is encouraging. "This year on the territory it was the first year that we had screening for breast cancer, and we hear about it on the radio and in newspapers and more and more we hear about it."

She says she tries to sensitize people to the disease. "We are dealing with cancer and everybody has a member of their family who has cancer. People care about the youth and they know it's very important to support something like this."

Dr. Ferland really believes in the foundation and is hoping to do something similar next year. "There are big organizations, telethons like *Enfant Soleil* and *Jeunesse au Soleil* that are very nice but often you don't see where the money's going. You don't see very concrete things. But for this organization it's different."

Lameboy was encouraged to get involved by her mom, who is a nurse.

"My mom told me about it and she supported me all the way," she said. "When all my hair was on the floor and people were clapping, she came to me and hugged me and told me how proud she was of me."

When Lameboy was asked if she'd shave her head again next year she replied: "I would, without a doubt. Shaving your head changes you inside a lot more than people think. I feel like I gave so little for what it brought to me. I walk with my head up high and I'm more confident and proud. When people look at me and see what I've done it gives them a glimpse into who I really am."

"This was the least that I could do to help sick teenagers feel good about themselves again and not look at cancer like the end, but more like something to live with and cope with. I wanted to show them that they can accomplish a lot of things even with the disease."

## in brief

## More cash for Native sports

The Canadian government announced a plan to increase Aboriginal participation in sports with an investment of \$12 million over five years.

Stephen Owen, Minister of Western Economic Diversification and Minister of State (Sport), said in Vancouver May 7 that the money will finance sport policy initiatives for equity improvement as well as provide Aboriginal persons' with increased access to sports.

"If we reduce existing barriers that prevent Aboriginal persons from having access to sports programs, we help ensure that they can enjoy the health and social benefits of sport participation," said Owen.

The policy on Aboriginal Peoples' Participation in Sport was developed in consultation with representatives from the Aboriginal Sport Circle, provincial and territorial service governments, and provincial and territorial Aboriginal sport bodies, amongst other organizations.

## Caisse Pop trial set for August

The lawyer for four Waswanipi women charged with defrauding the community's Caisse Populaire entered pleas of not guilty in Quebec Court May 17.

The alleged financial misdoings ran from January 2001 until July 2003 and according to the Crown involved thefts from entities within the community, including two grocery stores, the daycare centre and the band office.

Pauline Icebound, Josephine Happyjack, Cynthia Saganash, and Emily Gull-Happyjack, were all employees of the Waswanipi Caisse Populaire. They were charged Feb. 8 with theft of \$277,925.59, fraud and forgery of bank documents.

Their next court date is set for August 29.

## Aboriginal women protest tax policy

Aboriginal women and children staged simultaneous protests in six cities across Canada on May 12 against

Revenue Canada's repeal of child tax benefits.



Protesters outside the Prime Minister's constituency office in Montreal

Protesters say the federal government's actions violate Aboriginals' tax-exempt status and effectively breaks a 10-year-old agreement struck between Revenue Canada and Aboriginal communities.

"We're protesting against government policies that would lead to more poverty for Aboriginal people," said Louise Mayo, an Aboriginal mother and Director of the Montreal Native Friendship Centre. "Revenue Canada needs to be held accountable to its good-faith agreement that was to last until four test cases all went through the courts."



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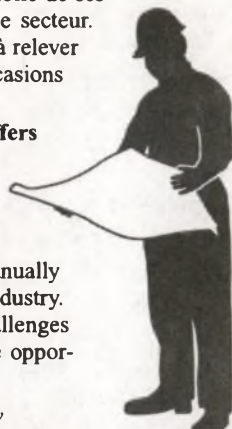
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**Ressources naturelles  
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The six sit-in protests took place in Vancouver, Winnipeg, Montreal, Thunder Bay, Toronto and Hamilton.

Revenue Canada agreed to a tax reporting and reclamation process in 1995 with Canada's Aboriginal communities that called for Aboriginals to file their taxes, and then file Notices of Objection to reclaim taxes to fulfill benefits to which they are entitled.

However, since that time, Revenue Canada has imposed inconsistent repeals that discourage Aboriginals from asserting their tax-exempt status.

"By taking away child tax benefits, Revenue Canada is directly causing us to sink further into poverty. It's a move that's hurting the most vulnerable in our community – our children," said Mayo. "Revenue Canada is trying to frustrate us by making the system complicated. It's under-handed, unfair and wrong."

## Suspicious death in Waskaganish

Suspicious circumstances surrounding an apparent suicide have led the police to send the body for an autopsy.

Justine Whiskeychan, 18, appeared to have taken her own life in her Waskaganish home May 16.

Police received a call at 6:25 a.m. and when they arrived at the scene her boyfriend was performing CPR on her. Police then transported Whiskeychan to the community clinic where she was pronounced dead at 7:25 a.m.

But now police are investigating further.

"In order to have more accurate answers to the cause of death, the family requested the autopsy," said community spokesperson George Katapatuk.

"No one is being suspected of anything right now, but it has not been declared a suicide yet," Katapatuk told the *Nation*.

## BDC winners of E-Spirit 2005

The Saugeen District Secondary School of Port Elgin, Ontario, has won this year's top prize in the fifth annual E-Spirit Aboriginal Youth Business Plan Competition. Their proposed busi-

ness, Mno-yaamgod, is a restaurant in the native community that would promote awareness of diabetes, obesity and other health issues related to Aboriginal people.

The special awards ceremony for 240 Aboriginal youth from all regions of Canada is aimed at Aboriginal students in Grades 10 to 12. The internet-based competition, developed by the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC), features interactive business planning resources, access to mentors online and a chance to meet and network with other students online and in person.

This year's competition, held on May 10th in Edmonton, involved 161 teams and 534 students from 74 schools across Canada. In addition to presentations by each team, an independent panel of experts judged business displays that included posters, detailed 3-D mock-ups, product sam-

ples, business cards, promotional videos and laptop demonstrations.

The Silver Award was given to the Sudbury (Ontario) Secondary School. Their business concept, Debassige Vision Workshops, would conduct workshops for Aboriginals on various aspects of Aboriginal culture and modern day family life.

The Bronze Award was won by Children of the Earth High School of Winnipeg. Their business, Sacred Journey Funeral Home, would provide culturally sensitive funeral services for Aboriginal families. Services include drummers, smudging and traditional dancers, singers and food.

Cash prizes were awarded to the three winning schools in the amount of \$2,500 for Gold, \$1,500 for Silver and \$750 for Bronze. Nine special achievement awards were also presented in addition to the cash prizes.

## Tembec to close four more mills

Tembec will cut 459 jobs and close four sawmills, three of which are in Quebec, the forestry company announced last week.

Tembec cited "fundamental issues" related to competitiveness, including the strong Canadian dollar, according to the *Montreal Gazette*.

The money-losing plants that are slated to be or have already been shut down are the Saint Raymond, Davidson, and Temiscaming plants in Quebec, and the Brantford, Ontario, plant.

Tembec had already announced earlier in the year that three other plants will be shutting down operations in late 2005.

continued on page 22



George Matoush and Nancy Maihot

Photo courtesy Club Shotokan

## The Interregional Karate Gold Cup 2005 Winners: Club Shotokan of Chibougamau

### Individual Winners:


#### Kata Category

Anabelle Awashish - Gold  
Celeste Awashish - Silver  
Tonya Hughboy - Gold  
Willie Loon - Gold

#### Kumite (Combat) Category

Anabelle Awashish - Gold  
Blacksmith - Bronze  
Willie Loon - Silver  
George Matoush - Bronze





# Midgets and jugglers and flares, oh my!

## A review of Cirque de Soleil's *Corteo*

Story by Steve Bonspiel Photos by Benoit Camirand

**T**he Cirque de Soleil is always trying to reinvent itself while staying close enough to its roots so as not to be confused with other, lesser acts. And on Friday, May 13th, I tried my luck with their latest installment, *Corteo*.

After leaning toward adult productions, the Cirque has come back to its beginnings, sort of.

There was much hype for one of their newer shows a couple years back called *Zumanity*. Pegged as an 18-plus show, it pushed boundaries and brought the Cirque from a show with an amazing display of bone-bending acrobatics, to one of taboo and sexual innuendo.

Some people loved it and said it was about time they explored the sexual side of humans. The performers are half naked already so it wasn't that far of a stretch.

Others whined that wholesome Canadian entertainment such as the Cirque shouldn't have to bow to the pressure of the sexual openness that represented, to a certain extent, Quebec society.

Either way, it was much publicized and the only negative aspect I can think of is why the hell was it in Las Vegas and not in Quebec?

Then along came their newest edition, *Corteo*.

The costumes look like throwbacks from anywhere between 1920 and 1950 with a tribute to the Italy of yesterday. This strayed from their usual skin-tight leotards with colours so bright they look like they were painted on bare skin.

Amazingly, there wasn't a small Asian contortionist kid in sight the whole night. That's where the midgets came in.

It seemed like they were trying to replace Asian children of previous shows with midgets in a way that didn't exactly work. Granted, it was part of the *Corteo* vision

which had virtually no place for kids, but it failed. The midgets weren't amazing in the least and only mildly entertaining.

The best part of the various acts involving small people was when the female midget floated around on and off stage in a little bucket with giant balloons holding her aloft. The crowd enjoyed whisking her away when she landed in their laps and her high-pitched squeals suggested that she seemed to like it as well. But remember, that was the fairly entertaining pint-sized act.

One of the midget acts that fell flat on its face was the play-in-a-minibus. What was supposed to be a stab at a pseudo-Shakespearean comedy ended up bringing tears to my eyes because it was so painful to watch.

Certain aspects, such as the props being attacked by a stagehand and the prop master falling through the roof, were funny. But the whole act lasted about 15-20 minutes and that was 15 minutes too long.

*Corteo* is derived from the Italian word, "*Corteggio*," which means a funeral procession. This version of the word is based on a clown's view of his own funeral, complete with the carnival-like atmosphere that is supposed to highlight the differences between big and small, perfection and imperfection, and the ridiculous with the tragic. It is set somewhere between heaven and hell.

Somebody forgot to tell them that seeing a really big person or a really small midget just isn't ironic enough anymore when all one has to do to see weird events is watch a reality show on TV or the Michael Jackson trial.

The juggling may have been the best part of the night. It's an amazing sight to watch four young jugglers acrobatically juggling various items, from bowling pins and balls to small hoops while sitting on each other's shoulders.





The acrobats show off their tricks.



Corteo in all its beauty and splendor

ders or switching places with the other through their legs, while never missing a beat.

I must admit that I'm very picky after having witnessed the magic and splendor of *Dralion* and *Varekai*, the two Cirque shows that preceded *Corteo*'s unveiling, a few years before in Montreal.

They created a world of wonder and amazement, a world that people wanted to visit, if only for a couple hours. A world so far removed from ours it may as well have been Neverland with a double-jointed Peter Pan and a death-defying Tinker Bell.

Instead, their latest show reminded me of a live version of Tim Burton's *Big Fish*. Surreal to say the

least, but a place that you don't want to visit for too long because you just might turn into a freak yourself.

The acrobats could have been part of a kiddie circus. They did the same thing over and over and never really made the audience gasp. It was not what I expected from the daredevil antics of former busker and Cirque founder Guy Laliberte. I actually yawned during that part.

The tight-rope walker was very good, skilled and daring, but being securely tied down just isn't as exciting as

knowing that if she screwed up, she'd fall. Into a net usually, but she would fall nonetheless.

The dude who whistles along with Mozart and Beethoven and later gets into a duel with a violinist was quirky, original and fun.

The quartet that rolls around in giant hoops was very cool. Two in particular almost left me queasy and I wondered how one didn't fall over from dizziness – or vomit onto the other.

Too many acts fell short of the excellence that the Cirque de Soleil name exudes.

All in all there were too many acts that fell short of the excellence the Cirque de Soleil name exudes. If this were my first show, I'd have thought it amazing, but since it was my third, I expected more

out of the creators.

It still earns a respectable three stars out of five and is something to watch. There are no shows that even come close to the creativity and originality of this modern day circus, and the best part is it was born right here in Quebec!

*Corteo* runs until June 19. For tickets call (514) 790-1245 or visit [admission.com](http://admission.com) on the web.



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# A healing journey

## Montreal conference tackles social ills

Photos and Story by Claire MacKinnon

For Kim Diabo, "It's never too late to start the healing journey." Diabo, from Kahnawake, was one of the organizers of the fifth annual Aboriginal Wellness Gathering held in downtown Montreal May 11-13. But sometimes the healing can be painful in itself: "Tears are medicine," explained Diabo, who is also a Clinical Supervisor at the Native Women's Shelter of Montreal.

The NWSM organized this year's series of workshops and discussions, which was sponsored by the Aboriginal Healing Foundation.

Opening with a prayer by Watshenn:ni Sawyer and keynote speaker Tom Porter, the events started on a positive note. Titled, "Moving Towards the Seventh Generation," this year's conference focuses on healing ourselves now, in order to prevent passing on our problems to future generations.

Nakuset, a Cree from Lac La Ronge and Executive Director of the NWSM, explained how personal trauma can be passed from one generation to the next. "If you're raised by an alcoholic, for example, then you'll have certain trauma

*"Tears are  
medicine"*

to deal with, and that can be passed on to the next generation," she said.

Mina Ekomiak spoke about her struggle to deal with her own problems with alcohol. She sees her drinking as the main reason why she's now HIV-positive. An Inuk originally from Chisasibi, Ekomiak has been living in Montreal for the past 18 years. When she found out she had contracted HIV three years ago, she became suicidal.

Now Ekomiak wants people to know that this is not just a disease affecting white people, but is deadly to the Native community, as well. "I've lost a lot of my friends to this disease," she said. "Parents need to talk to their kids about safe sex."

One of her greatest obstacles in dealing with the disease has been other people's ignorance about it. "I don't want to see others go through the same thing," she said. Ekomiak has faced a lot discrimination and isolation due to people's fears and misunderstanding about being HIV-positive.



Tina Stacey and her baby, Jordyn Kaiéhwté Jacobs



Mina Ekomiak tells her story



One discussion panel brought together three residential school survivors: Jackie Kistabish, a Cree/Algonquin from Pikogan, near Abitibi; Kakaionstha Deer, a Mohawk from Kahnawake; and Henriette McKenzie, an Innu from the Uashat mak Mani Utenam community near Sept-Îles. All three women spoke courageously about their nightmarish experiences at residential schools.

"It's not easy to talk about, but the secret kills us," said Kistabish. "Talking about it is healing, a liberation from physical and spiritual torment."

The three speakers also emphasized the need to return to their traditional culture in order to heal and to understand themselves and their roots.

One conference-goer agreed. "I'm here to heal and to learn whatever I can about being traditional, for myself and my daughter, Jordyn," said Tina Stacey, a Mohawk from Kahnawake.

Although she was raised a Christian, Stacey never felt she belonged. Her sense of belonging came when she attended her first Native festival. "I heard that first drumbeat, and I knew I was in the right place," she recalled.

Her daughter's father abandoned them when Jordyn was just 12 days old. Since then, Stacey has found solace in the Mohawk Longhouse and Healing Lodge. For others who are hurting, Stacey advises, "Don't let anybody discourage you from getting help if you want it and need it. Don't care about what anybody else says."

A community event, the conference is held annually and is open to all, providing free daycare service for parents. The Native Women's Shelter of Montreal offers workshops, counselling and shelter for women in need. If you need help, you can contact Kim Diabo at (514) 933-4688.



Conference organizers, (l-r), Kim Diabo, Taline Arslanian, and Nakuset



Conference guest speaker, Henriette McKenzie

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## One More River: A fair reminder!

One should acknowledge Grand Chief Dr. Ted Moses, O.Q., for his tenacity and determination for standing by an agreement he promoted, signed, sealed and delivered. As Grand Chief and member of the Cree Nation, Dr. Moses is as equally entitled to his personal opinion about the film *One More River* as anyone else within or beyond the confines of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, the Paix Des Braves or the New Relationship Agreement between the Cree, SDBJ and Hydro Quebec.

In a statement in *The Nation* (Vol.12, No.10 – April 1, 2005) concerning the film, Grand Chief Moses expresses his views and attempts to make others believe that the film portrays a negative image of the Paix des Braves.

*One More River*, in my personal opinion, presents a snapshot of events as they unfolded from that one October morning in 2001, when the Agreement in Principle (AIP) was first signed, and the process leading to the signing of the Paix des Braves.

Though I failed to catch the message in the film that advocates renouncing the deal, the film revived memories of a time of mixed emotions as it encapsulated an event in our time that will likely change our lifestyle as Eeyou even more, including our landscape, environment and perhaps change entirely the course of our own history. It is the only film to take account of the historical debate on the agreement, the proposed new direction and the proposed project for one more river. It tells the story of a divided Nation, the confrontation, the confusion, the hurt, the tears, the traces of betrayal and manipulation, the disregarded voices, the fear tactics and the squaring off in our own political arena, Cree vs. Cree.

It captures the laughter, the smiles and celebration of one side as it walks away the champion – The Conqueror, as two dissidents are led away in police vehicles. The film provides a valid scene of events as they happened, a glimpse of a recent past that agitates a sore spot on both sides. A film that is the opposite of what was portrayed by the Grand Council outside Eeyou Istchee before, during and after the agreement was signed.

Rezolution Pictures presented the process as it was and managed to deliver a condensed version in a two-part series, a four-month marathon process. They deserve only our gratitude and congratulations.

The Paix des Braves may have been in effect since February 7, 2002, but no one can deny that the difference of opinion and the debate on the agreement still lingers on. The

Grand Chief's statement not only validates this difference of opinion, but entices the idea that maybe now is the time to clear the air by reopening the debate.

I concur with the Grand Chief's that dissent is healthy, one that is balanced and creates a reasonable portrait of the situation, but we have to keep in mind that dissent is healthier when people are given an equal opportunity with equal resources to present a case. It was unfortunate that this was not the situation during the AIP consultations. Now would be the appropriate time put to test what we claim to be our democracy not only to clear the air, but to also assess our new realities and the real impacts from this deal.

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THE FILM PROVIDES A VALID SCENE OF EVENTS AS THEY HAPPENED, A GLIMPSE OF A RECENT PAST THAT AGITATES A SORE SPOT ON BOTH SIDES. A FILM THAT IS THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT WAS PORTRAYED BY THE GRAND COUNCIL OUTSIDE EYYOU ISTCHEE BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED.

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As we sit on our wealth and future counting our program money and deciding which projects to fund next even as we are about to begin to lose rivers one by one, social issues still plague our communities and our lives, so what has really changed?

What about the social and economic impacts from the agreement and projects such as EMI? What was in our victory? What did we gain and what did we give up in return? Did we really and fully understand what we agreed to or what we signed away? What about the OJ contamination issue and the people of OJ? How about what impacts does the agreement really have on our communities and us?

What about the Grand Chief's claim that we are saving the Broadback River and Nottaway if we allow HQ to divert the Rupert River – if of course it passes the environmental review? This is a claim I hope someone will put to rest after the goose break. Where are the documents that prove that



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## Actors wanted Actors wanted Actors wanted Actors wanted Actors wanted

Rezolution Pictures is looking for actors for the second season of Dab-Iyyuu. Dab Iyyuu is a show that visits Elders in their traditional activities and is featured on APTN. We need actors for the re-creations of the Elders' stories. Casting will be in **Mistissini**, the week of **May 30-June 3**.

We will be shooting the re-creations in **Mistissini**, **early to mid-June**

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NBR was economically, technically and scientifically viable anyway?

I believe the Rupert's River received an unfair sentencing, without evidence or a fair hearing. The river deserves a chance from a Nation it helped survive. In my personal opinion, including the Rupert River diversion project in the agreement was unnecessary, and I am beginning to think that it really was a sideshow project for something bigger and much greater, but what is it?

Life never has a shortage of events that come with valuable lessons – lessons sometimes that are far too great to just simply ignore or forget. The Paix des Braves and its process has been an experience of a lifetime.

I am not ready to renounce the deal; instead I would like to see the relationship enhanced without touching one river, including the one slated for diversion. Which reminds me – some time in the next few months each and every Cree will have the opportunity to exercise his or her duty at the polls once again and I personally look forward to voting. To vote to save a river!

**Bertie Wapachee**

## A Cry for One More River

I would like to say Meegwetch to all the people who worked on the documentary *One More River*.

The documentary opened my eyes in many ways and I went through feelings of anger and sadness from seeing and hearing the truth about how the events of negotiations and meetings took place, within and out of our communities. It hurts to know that our own people stand divided.

The documentary helped me realize how our culture connects with mother earth and all her lakes and rivers. It made me see the importance of our culture, and how our culture is what makes us rich as a people.

While watching the documentary, I remembered when a friend of mine introduced me to her sister, and her sister asked where I was from, and my friend responded by telling her sister, "She's from up North, you know? ... Where the people sell their land." Sure enough, her sister had an idea of where I came from. I felt so ashamed and wanted to mention to them that not everyone agrees with selling the land, but I found myself speechless because it was the truth.

Since we are selling the land once again, I want to speak up now because it's not leaving me speechless, it leaves me worried about our future and our generations to come. I want to share what I am about to express because I am worried about our land, our waters, the animals, the trees, our people, our culture, and our future.

The agreement hurts me deeply because I have learned that within our culture, part of my role as a Native woman, is a caretaker of the home and children, not only with the home and the children, but a caretaker for the waters and our mother earth. It is part of my responsibility because it will be my husband who will bring in food from the land and waters to feed my children. Not just my children, but extended family members as well.

With this agreement, we are agreeing to more clear-cuts, more mining, and, last but not least, damming our last beautiful river.

Are we agreeing to more tallymen getting angry because trees are being cut down on their lands? Also to think about the aftermath from the trees being down, there are a lot of effects there too.

In the agreement, did we agree to more poison in our waters, our lands and animals that come from the wastes from the mines? I have lost my grandmother, her brother, the late Joseph Shecapio Blacksmith, and my great-grandma's brother, late Albert Mianscum, to this poison. I don't want to lose more family members.

Our elders love eating wild meat. They have high and good spirits when they are at a feast with all kinds of meat. What are the coming mines going to do about their wastes?

-----  
THIS MONEY WILL HELP US BUILD MORE  
HOUSES, MORE BUSINESSES, MORE JOBS,  
BUT LOOKING AT IT IN THE LONG RUN,  
I THINK WE ARE LOSING.  
-----

Will we have to worry about the water we drink when we are at our bush camps? Or worry about the fish when we go fishing? About the bears who eat the fish, the moose who eat along the shores of the rivers, the beavers who build their homes along the waters, and the geese who eat around the swampy areas of our waters? Many of us, old and young love eating fish, moose, beaver, bear and geese, because these are within our way of life and our culture.

This money will help us build more houses, more businesses, more jobs, but looking at it in the long run, I think we are losing. It is from the land and waters where our beautiful culture lies along with our spirituality, and to lose our culture and our spirituality, I think we are losing ourselves.

How will this agreement help us become a stronger



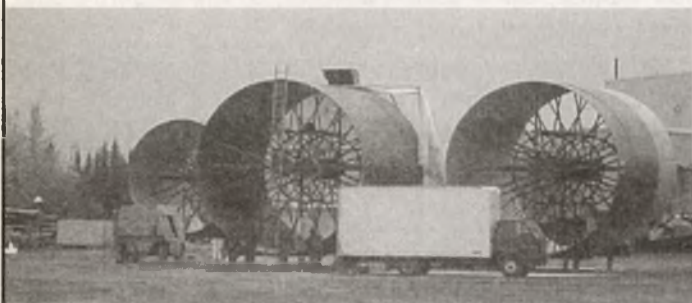
## Traffic disrupted between Matagami and the Eastmain-1 jobsite

For an undetermined period, there will be transportation of wide pieces between Matagami and the Eastmain-1 jobsite. This will considerably disrupt traffic. Each trip will be divided into two parts: from Matagami to Kilometre 274 (intersection with the Route du Nord) and, the following day, from Kilometre 407 to the Eastmain-1 jobsite. On the James Bay highway, the convoy will stop every 30 minutes, and/or as needed, to allow traffic through. However, from the Route du Nord to the Eastmain-1 jobsite, vehicles will not be able to pass the convoy. Hydro-Québec Security will be making sure that everything goes smoothly, several kilometres ahead of the convoy.



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# Healthy Living

**N**ourish the body and  
stimulate the senses with  
**Healthy Living recipes!**



**M**any people in Eeyou Istchee have Diabetes, or know of someone who does. Quite often this can be someone they love. We know that healthier food choices are important, but let's face it, sometimes they can border on boring. Well, not anymore! Each issue of *the Nation* will feature a delicious meal that keeps in mind the importance of health maintenance but does not forget rich and hearty satisfaction.

## White Chili Temptation

## Ingredients

<b>1/2 tbsp</b>	<b>low-fat butter or margarine</b>	<b>8ml</b>
<b>1/4 cup</b>	<b>onion, chopped</b>	<b>50ml</b>
<b>1/4 cup</b>	<b>green chili peppers, diced</b>	<b>50ml</b>
<b>1/2 tsp</b>	<b>ground cumin</b>	<b>2ml</b>
	<b>several dashes of bottled hot pepper sauce</b>	
<b>3/4 cup</b>	<b>cooked turkey or chicken, chopped</b>	<b>175ml</b>
<b>3/4 cup</b>	<b>white kidney beans, rinsed and drained</b>	<b>175ml</b>
<b>1/2 cup</b>	<b>loose-pack frozen whole kernel corn</b>	<b>125ml</b>
<b>1 tsp</b>	<b>instant chicken bouillon granules</b>	<b>5ml</b>
<b>1 1/4 cups</b>	<b>water</b>	<b>300ml</b>
<b>1/4 cup</b>	<b>shredded reduced-fat Monterey Jack cheese (optional)</b>	<b>50ml</b>
<b>1/2 tsp</b>	<b>chopped fresh parsley (optional)</b>	<b>2ml</b>

### Directions

1. In a medium saucepan melt butter or margarine. Add your onion, green chili peppers, cumin, and hot pepper sauce. Once onions are translucent add meat, beans and corn.
2. At the same time in a small saucepan bring water to a boil. Add bouillon granules to boiling water. Once granules are completely dissolved, gradually add the broth to the chili mixture. Simmer, covered, about 10 minutes or until vegetables are tender.
3. To serve, ladle the chili into serving bowls. If desired, top each serving with cheese and parsley. Makes 2 servings.

**TIPS:** Turkey or chicken can be replaced with ptarmigan or goose. For a less spicy version, reduce amount of pepper sauce and green chili peppers by half.

**NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION PER SERVING  
(USING TURKEY):**

calories:	266	sodium:	560mg
total fat:	4g	carbohydrates:	34g
saturated fat:	1g	total sugar:	1g
monounsaturated fat:	1g	fibre:	7g
polyunsaturated fat:	1g	protein:	26g
		cholesterol:	40mg



# Northern



Nation? How will the world see us as a Nation who can make decisions as a people and come to partnership with the government when we are selling ourselves out?

I don't want to be known as "She is from up North, where the people sell their land."

What if the agreement was not signed? I think people around the world would see us as a strong and proud Nation that stands up for its identity, living with our mother earth, protecting the lands, the waters, the animals for our future generations to come.

Why can't we as a Nation come to an agreement where we protect the land and have wind energy instead?

I encourage youth and others to speak up more because this is our future, we will be the leaders of our future. We need to keep our culture strong. We need to speak up.

I hope the documentary helped those of you who didn't vote, those who didn't understand the agreement or those who didn't know what they were voting for. I encourage more people to voice their concerns. Maybe there is something that I don't see that someone could help me see a good side to this agreement.

I want to leave this one last thought I learned from an elder's teaching, and this teaching has made me not forget where our people have come from, and not to forget who I am, and just to remember that, motivates me to work towards a better tomorrow for our people.

"One must know where they come from to know where one is going in life."

Meeqwetch.

**Brenda St-Pierre**

Youth of Ouje-Bougoumou  
Cree Nation

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### 3. No textbooks and school supplies expenses

The textbooks we need for our studies cost about \$100 each. For 10 courses per year, textbook expenses are approximately \$1,000. With four years of undergraduate studies, this accumulates to about \$4,000. Luckily, many post-secondary institutions have open accounts for CSB students to charge textbooks. Every semester we receive funds to cover school supplies. For the non-native students, these expenses are paid from their own pockets.

### 4. No real need for part-time jobs to supplement living allowances

The majority of the non-native students I meet are working part-time to cover their living expenses. A fellow classmate was working three part-time jobs to put herself through school and yet she excelled in her studies.

Likewise, other FN students need part-time jobs as their living allowances are not enough to cover the basics. I know a full-time university student/mother with five dependents who is a non-beneficiary. She receives half as much as a CSB full-time student with four dependents; this amount only covers her rent and food. So she holds a part-time job and is often on her feet for 12 hours during her work shift. Yet, she feels lucky to qualify for funding from her community where education funds are few and far between. As CSB students, our living allowance affords reasonable funding to cover basic living expenses if one budgets wisely.

### 5. Receiving movie gift certificates

As a student with dependents I really appreciate the movie coupons we get from our student activity funds. This offsets the expense in going to movies at least twice a year. I know other FN students don't get these little bonuses.

### 6. Top CSB officials meeting with us

We get tremendous support from the Council of Commissioners, the Directors and other staff of the CSB. They take time from their busy schedules to meet with post-secondary students and repeatedly offer words of praise and encouragement. I know other FN students' educational sponsors can rarely afford these visits.

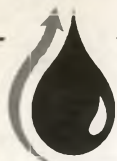
### 7. Two full-time post-secondary guidance counselors

Many of us students need academic advice. We have two wonderful guidance counselors at our disposal. Again, in most cases, we don't see this kind of service offered to other FN students. They must use services from their post-secondary institutions, like any other student.

### 8. Parents don't have to save for children's education

Parents of CSB post-secondary students don't carry the costs of putting





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## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **ELECTION FOR THE OFFICE OF CHAIRPERSON/SPOKESPERSON OF THE CREE NATION YOUTH COUNCIL (EYYOU ISTCHEE)**

TO ALL CREE YOUTH BENEFICIARIES  
(AGES 13-29) OF EYYOU ISTCHEE

**TAKE NOTICE THAT THE CREE NATION  
YOUTH COUNCIL (EYYOU ISTCHEE)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE SET  
A DATE FOR THE ELECTIONS TO  
THE OFFICE OF CHAIRPERSON/  
SPOKESPERSON AS FOLLOWS:**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2005**

**POLLS** will be open from 9:00 a.m.  
to 9:00 p.m.

**ADVANCE POLLS:** Wednesday, July 27,  
2005. From 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**NOMINATION FORMS** will be available  
as of **MONDAY, MAY 9, 2005**, either  
at the local Youth Departments or  
from the Chief Electoral Officer at  
the following address and telephone  
number:

**Edna L. Neeposh**

Chief Electoral Officer

Cree Nation Youth Council

(Eeyou Istchee)

2 Lakeshore Road


Nemaska, Qc. JOY 3B0

Tel: (819) 673-2600, Ext. 327

Fax: (819) 673-2606

E-mail: [neeposhj@cra.qc.ca](mailto:neeposhj@cra.qc.ca)





## UNDER THE NORTHERN SKY

### What Goes Around Comes Around

by Xavier Kataquapit

The spring time goose hunt has always been a big part of our culture and tradition on the James Bay coast. It is a period that has been part of our way of life for thousands of years. People up the coast look forward to seeing the annual migration of thousands of geese coming back north. After a long winter, the geese bring a sense of relief as they are a natural source of food that can be harvested by our people.

Hunters and gatherers from my home community and other remote northern First Nations take part in the annual goose hunt every year. The hunt takes place in distant places and far from the industrialized world in the south. Harvesting food on the land has never been a concern for us as we think that the modern world in the south does not affect us much in the north. In the past, we never had to think about the Canada Goose, Snow Goose and Wavy as in any way contaminated. We viewed the birds as natural and organic.

In the 1980s, the biggest concern we had about the hunt was the use of lead buckshot in shotgun shells. At first when shotguns came into use on the James Bay coast in the early part of the last century, there was a small amount of lead buckshot used every year because of the fact that this form of ammunition was produced by hand. By the 1970s, shotgun shells were being mass-produced and were cheaper to buy, which made it easier for hunters during the hunting season.

Unfortunately, lead buckshot can become lodged in the flesh of a bird and can be consumed by people who eat the meat. We learned as children not to swallow these small pebbles of lead while we ate. In later years, there was cause for concern as to the amount of buckshot that was being spread over the land. It was adding up to tons of lead, year after year, by hundreds of hunters throughout the north. Now lead buckshot has more or less been replaced with steel shot as a more environmental and health-conscious alternative.

In recent years I have discovered other reasons to be careful about how many wild geese I eat. I have travelled to many cities and towns in southern Ontario where I witnessed large numbers of geese. It thrilled me to see so many geese in the parks and on the waterways. Many of these birds are now accustomed to living amongst humans and around enclosed parks and wildlife shelters. I was shocked to see that in many instances the geese were living in and feeding on very polluted and possibly toxic areas.

Up north we always think of the geese feeding on pristine land and water and we don't make the connection that for part of the year they are eating garbage in the south.

Up until this point, I never really thought of where migratory birds like the Canada Goose go every year. These birds fly thousands of kilometres every year from as far north as the Arctic all the way down to the southern United States. They are safe in the natural and untouched shelter of the far north. However, in the south, geese live and feed on modern agricultural farms that use manure, pesticides and herbicides. Geese are able to fly to any destination to find food but when in the south in highly populated and industrialized areas they also spend time near factories, manufacturing plants, chemical plants and all sorts of other unsafe areas. When these birds fly north, they bring with them all the contamination and chemicals in their bodies which we unsuspectingly consume.

Now, there is a new concern for those who eat wild geese each spring. Recently, I read a news story about the fact that scientists are suggesting that these birds can potentially become vectors or deliverers of superbugs. Scientists have found through testing done on Canada Geese that these birds can pick up and shed antibiotic-resistant pathogens.

This means that Canada Geese who live and feed in agricultural areas in the south can come into contact with animal or human waste and become exposed to new and dangerous pathogens. In turn, they can then potentially deliver the pathogen thousands of kilometres away during their migration. So far, there have been no proven incidents happening but there is concern that this is possible in a world where there are a growing number of antibiotic-resistant organisms that can make us unwell.

Don't get me wrong, I am not trying to alarm anyone. After all, the goose hunt is part of who we Cree are as a people. However, I think that the best way for people in the north to deal with this situation is to eat a more balanced diet. I also believe that it would be safer to eat more terrestrial animals like moose, caribou or rabbit as they do not migrate into dangerous areas that can affect their health and ours. It is a mistake to think that we are safe and sound from all the dangers of the world here up north. We all have to wake up and realize that any pollution or disregard for Mother Earth anywhere in the world at some point ends up in our own backyard and maybe even on our dinner plate.



their children through college or university. I heard stories from parents of other FN students having to pay part of their children's living expenses because the students are so under-funded. They spend most of their savings on their children's future. That's why the FN academic scholarships are so important for FN students. In order to qualify for these scholarships, they must meet above-average grades since these scholarships are highly competitive.

#### 9. Receiving incentive awards and graduation gifts

Undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate students get incentives from the CSB after graduation. Most incentives are not available to other non-beneficiary students, let alone the prospect of a graduation gift. The only incentive they receive is a diploma or degree. We must give them credit for the pride they must feel at the prospect of a future and perhaps a good job for their perseverance.

#### 10. No cut-off year for sponsorship

Most First Nations students are automatically subjected to a cut-off year for sponsorship. One FN student was half-way through his BA honours year when he received word from his sponsors that he had exhausted his sponsorship funds. His Band put a time limit on his education funds regardless of his intention to complete his honours year and possibly go on to graduate school. No amount of pleading helped overturn the decision. I don't see this happening to a CSB student. The CSB encourages higher levels of schooling.

The moral of this list is that we as CSB students have to make sacrifices; we can't expect to fulfill all our conveniences and/or wants during our studies. We must be patient, for that can come later when we've earned that job to afford such conveniences. We have to take pride in our schooling and work as hard as the next student without forgetting all the benefits we receive from the CSB. Without our James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA) sponsorship programs, we wouldn't be where we are now. As a Cree student learning among non-native and other FN students, it's really opened my eyes as to how fortunate we are in many ways. I know the JBNQA has been a mixed blessing in our communities. But we can't forget the educational opportunities and advantages available to us from the agreement. It has significantly improved our chances to advance ourselves, education-wise. It's an opportunity we must respect and be grateful for.

Linda Neacappo-Rodrique

## Murder trial again postponed

Linda Shecapio's trial has been postponed – again.

Shecapio, from Mistissini, is charged with second-degree murder after she allegedly stabbed an Inuk man in an incident that occurred Oct. 27 in Montreal.

Former Chisasibi resident Charlie Ekomiak, 19, collapsed on the corner of de la Montagne and Notre Dame Streets and later died from his wounds.

Shecapio is now to appear in court on June 6.

### Correction:

Amelia Dixon was not one of the Youth Runner Up in the "Stay Quit To Win Contest," as publicized in The Nation, Vol. 12-12.

## Passet...

Have any information you'd like to share with the Nation?

Feel like there's something the rest of the Cree Nation should know? Do you have any stories of corruption, discrimination, or something you want exposed?

Well that's what the Nation is here for. Call us at 514-272-3077, and we'll look into your story. We cannot guarantee anything will be written and we reserve the right to edit and leave out any libelous content, but if you don't call us, your voice won't be heard!



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# CLASSIFIEDS

## BIRTHS - 100

**We would like to send our congratulations** to my sister, Yvette Pepabano & boyfriend, Rodney Wylde on the birth of their baby boy "Benjamin Shane Taylen John" on May 10th 2005 in Amos. May the good Lord bless & guide you both. Always remember, a baby needs both Mommy & Daddy. Again, congrats! With love always, Jennifer, Robert, Ethan-Robert & Richard, from Ojay.

## BIRTHDAYS - 101



**To my son, Marcus Cameron Rabbitskin** 7 years old On May 24/05. Happy Birthday on this special day...Happy 7th Birthday is what I'm here to say...You have brought me joy, love & pride to my life...And you continue to do that this very day...From the little boy you used to be... You have grown so fast it's like only yesterday I held in my arms as a baby. As you grow up to be a handsome young man...Just never forget how deeply & dearly mommy loves you...And how much your baby sister Hailey loves you too...Happy Birthday my boy. With lots of love, hugs & kisses Your mommy (Betsy) & Baby sister Hailey-Ann.

**We would like to wish Happy Birthday** to the following: May 1: Louise Pien, May 2: Sandy Pien and James Chemaganish, May 4: Esther Tooma, May 11: Noah Nabinacaboo, May 17 Jennifer Sandy, May 20: Annie Nattawappio, May 23: Vanessa Pien and Yoan Gregoire, May 26: Loretta

Robinson and Lazarus Nattawappio, May 29: Jessica Chemaganish. From Gregory, Mark and Annika Tooma and Joanne Chemaganish from Montreal!

**Sending a Birthday wish** to my sister, Josephine Salt Hester, on May 18, 2005. She is now entering to golden years, wow!!! I can't believe she did it, Josephine isn't it exciting. Wow!! I'm so happy for you that you have reached the age of !!! oopss, I better not say it in the Nation. Well, have a great day at work on your Birthday. Happy Birthday sister. Love always, from Linda Moar, Nemaska.

**I would like to say Happy Birthday** to my one and only son, Kohl Mason Ernest Ottereyes, on May 18th, 2005. I want you to know that I love you with all my heart and soul. Five years ago, I held you in my arms, you were so tiny and you looked so innocent. I loved you from the day I first held you and I will love you always, my little boy. You will always be my little boy, but you are growing up to be a fine young man.....and smart too. I want the whole, wide world to know that you are the sweetest boy. Happy 5th Birthday my boy!....With love always, Mom.xoxoxox.

**Happy 4th Birthday** to Anthony Napash, from Allison. I would like to send birthday greeting to the following people who's b-days are in the month of May. Maggie May Petagumskum on May 01, Emerald Kawapit on May 02, Deborah Kawapit Snr. & Gordon Snowboy on May 09, Judy Masty (JUDITH) on May 10, Wes Masty-Rouselle on May17, Gabriel Masty & Elizabeth Kawapit Jnr. on May 18, Eliza Masty & Sheila Rupert on May 19, Kayleigh Kawapit on May 25, and Shawn Masty on May 31st. May you all have a wonderful time on your special days. Take it easy on the sun tans you guys & gals. Just Kidding..... Love always from, Rebecca David, Terrell, Robin & Kayla-Marie Kawapit (Whapmagoostui).

**I would like to send a special birthday greeting** to my adorable nephew and godchild, Kohl Ottereyes on May, 18. Happy 5th Birthday and I miss you...I wish I could be there for your birthday...but I won't be able to...Sorry! But I will be thinking about you on your special day...I love you and I miss you. From your Auntie Angela in Waswanipi...P.S. Have a blast at your party!

**We would like to say Happy Birthday** to these people with May birthdays...To our loving and caring father, Edward Matoush, on May 6th. We thank you for everything you do for us, whenever we need help from you. You are always there for us. And to my sister, Maggie Matoush, on May 12th, and to my nephew, Terrence Ottereyes, on May 25th, and to my brother, Josie Matoush, on May 26th, 2005. I really hope all of you will have fun on your Birthdays.....Hey dad try to enjoy your special day, just relax and you and Maggie have rest on your birthday. You too Terrence, enjoy your special day. And you too Josie, don't party on your Birthday. Once again Happy Birthday to you all, and many more birthdays to come. X.o.X.o.X.o. Miss you all..Fr love always: S.S & E.S (Wemindji).

**I want to wish a Happy 13th Birthday** to my one and only baby girl, on May 25th, 2005, Katrina Stephen. I can't believe you are a teen.....it seems like only yesterday I brought you home from the

hospital. I wish you many more birthdays and happiness. You are my angel and I love you with all my heart, Mom, Kathleen (Wask.).

**I would like to wish a Happy Birthday** to my youngest sister Marlena Otter on May 13. I hope you have a BLAST on your birthday...in the bush, and to my nephew Khayden Otter-Rupert Happy 4th Birthday on May 25. I'm guessing that you're going to have a spider-man birthday party again, right? Anyway, I hope you have a great time on your birthdays love you and I miss you both. From Jessica, Lyle and Payton Otter.

**Happy Birthday to my sisters**, Dolores on May 10, Rebecca, on May 13, Maryanne on May 30 & also my nephew, Jean Guy on May 28. My niece Nancy, on May 30. Hope you all have great birthdays. From your Sister & Aunt Cheryl.

**Someone special will be celebrating his birthday on May 18.** This young boy is Daylan Salt. Have fun blowing out your candles and don't forget to make a wish! From Myra and Merielle.

**I want to take this time to wish a happy birthday** to someone special; my Dad who will be celebrating his birthday on May 18. Dad I wanted to let you know that I love you with all my heart because you've been there for me all my life and I thank you for that. I also wanna thank you for taking care of my precious daughter because I know in my heart that you love my kids. And we love you, too, very much. Again, happy birthday Dad

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and love you! With love, your daughter and grandchildren. I also want to wish a happy birthday to my nephew Kohl Mason Ernest on the same day as my Dad/his Grandpa (May 18). Hope you both enjoy your day. LOVE YA KOHL'SH.

**I want to wish a happy birthday** to my special nephew Donovan Lee who will be celebrating his 3rd birthday (in OJAY) on May 25th. I wish I could be there to see you blow out your three candles, but I'll be thinking of you. I can't wait to see you again. I miss you so much, and hope you're doing great. And LOVE YOU LOTS! From Auntie Bella and your cousins Marcus, Marisa and Mya (Wask)

**We would like to say a Happy 17th Birthday** to our buddy, Melina Katapatuk, in Waskaganish, who will be celebrating on May 8. Hope you enjoy your Birthday...Too bad we can't party with you, eh Melina.....\*Lol\*....Hey Melina, dont party too hard without us, Goh eh:P....Lol kidding! Well, once again Happy Birthday... From: Angela and Doreen (Chisasibi).

**I would like to wish a half way to the fourties birthday** to my long time buddie Seq. I would say let's party but you will probably be going in the bush. Oh just to make it clear I will definitely party and pretend you are there with me. LoL maybe if ur arm really did fall off nah? I hope you ur day is allright I know it won't be great without us. Jk. I will make sure to sent you lots of songs on the radio. Handmedown. Say What? neh Dumb Ahss. Lots of Love from Doris

**Birthday wishes going out** to my Friend Kathleen Gilpin on the 1st. I miss you babe and can't wait to see you, soon I hope. Well Josiah sends hugs and one kiss mook. LOL! So make it count. Happy Day to you oops forgot Birth. Lots of love, Lora and Josiah.

**I would like to wish my Great-**

**Grandma, Dorthey Chewanish, a Happy Birthday.** Hope you enjoy your Birthday. Love always, Bianca Jonah (Chisasibi).

**I would like to wish my Grandma, Dorthey Chewanish, a Happy Birthday,** who will be celebrating on May 10. Hope you enjoy your Birthday, Love always Doreen (Chis).

**I would like to wish a Happy 18th Birthday** to my sister and a friend, Alice Salt on May 15th.. Sorry I wasn't there to celebrate with you..But I promise when I get back. We hope you still had fun blowing those candles. lol..Hey, now you're old enough to go to Chateau Inn..JK..LOL ..eeehhh!! Don't drink too much on your birthday or at all...It will be more fun without alcohol, nah? Enjoy your day while you're in the bush! From your sister and a friend!!! d.

**We would like to wish a Happy Birthday** to our very special Aunty, Alice Salt on May 15th (Chisasibi)...We love you so much!!! Take care of yourself...and don't give a hard time to Gookum & Joomshuum!! Have fun on your Birthday, but not too much.. Save some cake for us. From your only niece, Daisy (Essghosh), and your nephews, Anthony, David'sh, Alexander & Harry'sh.

**Happy 10th Birthday** to our daughter "Valerie Tanya Rose Wapachee". We thank the Lord for blessing us with a daughter so special and loving. We hope you enjoy your birthday on May 27th. We love you with all our hearts, Mom and Dad, sisters Patricia & Tyra Lynn'sh xoxo.

**Happy 14th Birthday** on May 26 to Jordan Turner in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Hope your day is a good one and filled with happiness. From Dad, Lillian, Jake, Alexandria, Vanessa, Jaimee, Trey and Kaylynn.

**Double the kisses** and double the hugs for our twin daughters Alyssa & Leah Mistacheesick who celebrated their 2nd birthday on April 30. Time goes by so fast you two

are growing so much and getting into trouble all the time, but you're still a blessing to us and we love you two so much. Happy Birthday big girl and baby girl. Love Mommy & Daddy (Wemindji).

**Happy Birthday** to my sisters Alyssa & Leah. Even though I get mad at you two I still love you! From your Big Brother Drayden. (Wem)

**Hey...I just wanted to say Happy Belated Birthday** to ma friend, Melina Katapatuk, on May 8. "Happy 17th Birthday Girl". From one of ur homegirls in Wask: P.

**Sending a Birthday wish** to my sister, Josephine Salt Hester, on May 18, 2005. She is now entering her golden years, wow!!! I can't believe she did it, JOSEPHINE is it exciting, Wow!! I'm so happy for you that you have reached the age of !!! oopss, I better not say it in the Nation. Well, have a great a day at work on your Birthday. Happy Birthday Sister. From, love always, Linda Moar, Nemaska.

**I would like to say happy birthday** to my uncle who lives in Montreal. His birthday was on May 11th. His name is Balish M. Hey uncle hope you had fun on ur birthday you deserve it. And don't work too much. Many more birthdays to come. Take care and don't party too much! Agooodah ohh, almost forgot to my special chumsum he will be celebrating his b-day on may 17, I think! He is getting very old. His name is John Mianscum. Hope u will have lots of fun on ur day, u deserve it chuumsuum. U are a very special to me, I love u chuumsuum, with all my heart u know it. Plz chuumsuum, don't work too much u might

hurt urself. We all care for u, okay? Happy b-day, many more b-day's to come. Love always, your Niece, Grand-Daughter L.M. Take care Agooodah!

**I would like to say happy birthday** to my friends who were always good friends: Samantha Iserhoff on May 14th, and to Trista Bosum on May 17th. Hope u girls have fun on ur birthday. Hey Samantha, don't party too much, now that u can go in the bars..lol. Once again, happy birthday to my friends and many more to come. Hope we can all party together soon...lol. Bye gurls see yah soon! Take care!(Y), from ur friend in OJ. Peace out!

**A special birthday wish** goes out to a young woman who lives in Mistissini and her name is Trista Bosum. "Happy 20th Birthday, girl"!!! on the 17th of May. Always remember that you are more than welcome to visit or call us anytime. We really enjoyed keeping you when you were going to school here in Val-d'or. You are a kind, thoughtful, loving person and NEVER forget that, OK!! We love you, Trista. Love always, Flora and Danny.

**We would like to wish a Happy 7th Birthday** to our beautiful daughter, Selena Gull, on April 8th 2005. Just to let you know that we love you so very much! You are growing like a beautiful little flower. Happy 7th Birthday and many more to come We love you! Love always: Mom & Dad (Melanie & Sinclair Neeposh) Samuel Rain, Starr Ethan, Serena Annabelle..., XOXOX (Waswanipi)



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**And to my brother, Bobby Happyjack.** Happy 24th Birthday lil' bro... I know you almost got wasted on your night, but u gotta take it easy on the JD, that was disgusting when you took a shot out of that JD, Eeeuuwww... lol. Well, Happy 24th Birthday and many more to come! I love you and take care! Love always, your one and only sister: Melanie Gull Neeposh XOXOX.

**Belated birthday greetings** going out to the following people who celebrated their birthdays on the month of May, 2005, my sister Eliza (05), my nephew, Travis Cromarty (06). My nephew Eric Meilleur (08), my other nephew, Ryan Meilleur, & Jonathan Sam (13), Tristan Cox (14), my cousin, Tina House (15), my Aunt Gracie Louttit (19), a very special young lady, Karlene-Jenny House (21), Brandon House (22), and my sister Leigh-Ann Pepabano (25). May you all have many many more Birthdays!! With love always, Jennifer, Robert, Ethan-Robert & Richard Dixon (Ojay).

**Wishing a very happy birthday** to my friends in Chisasibi, Pauline K. Matthew (26) & Priscilla P. Matthew (28). Hope you'll have a good day on your birthdays again. Happy birthday ladies!! From Jennifer (Ojay).

**On May 31st, 2005...** This handsome little fellow will celebrate his 3rd birthday!...And I would like to take this time to wish him a "Happy Birthday"...His name is Tyson Wendell Atsynia from Wemindji, Qc. Happy Birthday young man and have a blast..You Deserve It!..From your friend all the way from Waskaganish...Camelia Jonah ~XoXoXoX~.P.S come and visit me soon okay?...Luv U So Much!!

**Birthday wishes going out** to Tyson Atsynia from Wemindji, Qc...He'll be celebrating his 3rd birthday on May 31st, 2005...Happy Birthday to you!! We love you and we can't wait for your next visit!...From all of us @

326 Winnibek St. in Waskaganish, Qc.

## PERSONAL - 300

**The players of the Rupert River hockey team** would like to thank the Whale Cup Senior Hockey Tournament Organization Committee for their great annual event that took place in Whapmagoostui back in early April. Nothing better than a hockey trip to Great Whale River to end the 2004-05 "locked out" hockey season. Merci beaucoup!! Meegwetch!!

**Hockey Documentary:** Vic Linklater is currently writing and producing a film documentary on ice hockey. He would like your help in finding old photos or memorabilia of hockey in the Moose Factory area. If you have any vintage 70's or early 80's photos, or video, please contact Vic at: victor-linklater@hotmail.com or call 705-658-4987. Meegwetch!

**It is a privilege** to help our people and I want to say Congratulations to all who completed courses, programs and their semester at any of our colleges. It's all good! Both Roger Chum and I wish you all a safe and happy summer. From Elizabeth Dowdall, Counsellor, Aboriginal Learning Unit, Canadore College.

**Walking Out Ceremony Eastmain:** Hello Marjorie, we are Esther and Walter from Holland, Europe. We were in Eastmain 2 years ago and still have contact with some of your people. We now have a son, Quirijn Josja, who is 1 year now. We want him to join the Walking Out Ceremony. So we want to register him for May 27th. We have contacted Jamie Moses, he knows about it and we will sleep at Laureen Paul's house. We will arrive in Eastmain on May 24. I hope you can help us further. Esther and Walter Posno.

**I would like to wish a happy mother's day** to two very special and beautiful women...First my mother Flora Blackned...I love you

and I miss you...And then to the next best mother...My mother-in-law Daisy Mark...Thank for giving me your son...lol...j/k...I love you both and I wish you nothing but the best. From Angie and the kids, Treasure and Benji.

**Dear Hurting,** I thought about you today. Like any other day. You may think that no one understands you, and no one ever will. But, have you ever thought about giving it a try, telling someone about your problems? There is someone out there who is willing to listen. There is someone who cares. If your burdens are too heavy to carry, and you feel like you can't go on anymore, please reconsider and know that you life is precious. You have so much in store for your future. Every living person has a purpose in their life. That is why you were bora. You are God's treasure possession. You are special. If you need someone to talk to, perhaps a friend, or you need an advice on anything, in life, love, parents, friends, etc..I would love to help. No names needed necessary. My email is, versace516@hotmail.com.

**want to dedicate this to my late grandma Emily Gracie Bearskin.** May on May 25, 1998. Grandma ever since you left this world a lot has happen, sometimes I wish you could still be here with us today, but God called your name it's been almost 7 years since you left this world, I'll be turning 10 this year I remember you I was almost 3 years old when you left this world, I have 2 sisters now Emily-Ann and Tia I love them with all my heart like I loved you, sometimes I tell my sisters if you would have met our Grandma Emily you would loved her too, I remember the sleep over's I had with you. Grandma I want to wish you Happy Mother's Day and I know you're very happy in the place called heaven with your family, I know you're watching over us, we miss you a lot. I remember when we went to trout lake by plane in September 1997 and by Ski-doo in March 1998 when we went ice fishing. We had a lot of fun that year. That was the last year you went in the bush. I remember that year. I'm very glad you came with us. On May 25, 1998 that's

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# CLASSIFIEDS

when God called your name. After you left this world on June 19, 1999, my sister came into this world. We named her after you, Emily Ann Grace, and October 21, 2002 my youngest sister came into this world we named her Tia Angel. Grandma Happy Mother's Day. Grandma I wish you could be here with us today. Grandma I miss you so much. Grandma I love you with all my heart. Love always your oldest Granddaughter: Juanita Hannah Neebeesh Bearskin. Rest in peace Grandma.

**Happy Mother's Day** to my friends, Amanda Voyageur and Rosalind Ratt. Hope you had a special day. Take care of yourself and your boys...Being a Mommy it's the hardest job that anyone could have and it takes the greatest ones to be one! Happy Mother's day. Hope to see you soon. Take care now...C-Ya when I get back. From one of your Friends!!...From there and there.

**Happy Mothers Day** to my Grandma, Enda Jonah in Waskaganish, and to all my Aunts. Hope you enjoy your day. Love: Doreen & Bianca (Chis).

**I would like to wish a Happy Mothers Day** to the following people: my Mom, Christine (love you) and my sister, Rhonda (thanxs for being there), and to my Grandma, Dorthy, and my Aunts and all my cuzins in Chisasibi ...DJ (Chisasibi).

**Happy Mother's Day** to my mother, Alice Jonah, in Wask., my sisters Sally Esau, Moosonee, Marie Blueboy, moosonee, Judy Cap., O.J., Marion Esau and Susan Esau in Gatineau, and most of all, Happy Mother's Day to my wife, Yvonne...Love you. From your husband and Esau girls. Oh yeah, Happy Mother's Day to all my sisters-in-law and nieces. P.Esau.

**Happy Mother's Day** to my wonderful loving & caring mother "Emma Wapachee." For all that you are, for all that you mean and for all that you have done to bless and inspire the lives of others.

May God bless you throughout the year with many good things. Happy Mother's Day Mom, I love you! Love: your daughter, Brenda-Rose.

**I would like to wish my Grandmothers, Sarah Wapachee & Sophie Coonishish "Happy Mother's Day".** Take care of yourselves young ladies. I thought of you on Mother's Day and always. I love you both. May God bless you!!! Love always: Brenda-Rose and great grand-daughters Valerish, Patricia & Tyra Lynns xoxoxo.

**Happy Mother's Day** to our Nanny (Lorraine Jolly) in Moose Factory, and to our Goo-Goo (Alice Mistacheesick) in Wemindji, and to all our other goo-goo's in Moose Factory, Wemindji, and Waskaganish. We love u all very very much. From Drayden, Alyssa & Leah. (Wemindji).

**I would like to say Happy Mother's Day** to the following mothers: to my mom, Bella Mianscum.

**How much I love you**, I can't say. It's more than words can hold. You were always there for me whenever I needed something, you always did your best to be a good mother. Mom, u r a good mother u don't even have to try. U make me happy when ur happy. You're the best Mom. I love you with all my heart. For this I give my swollen sum of gratitude and love. I love you so much mom for all you've done for me. Thank you, mom. And to my grand-mothers, Helen Mianscum and Emma Longchap, Sophie Dixon, Hattie Longchap, Mary Dixon, and to Maggie Longchap, Theresa W. Bosum, Melissa Cap, D.B. and to all the mother's of Cree Nations. Happy Mother's Day to all of you. Y'all deserve peace out, take care from daughther, niece, grand-daughter, Lorna Mianscum.

**To the 18 wonderful E.N.C.S. students** of Mistissini: I wish you the best of luck as you complete your diploma. Remember that you are the key to your own suc-

cess. I am proud of you. Thank you for making me a part of your lives for the past year. Best wishes always, love Holly.

**I just want to say hi** to Jacey Leigh and Josie Anne Otter from Waswanipi. We have tried calling you girls on many occasions but no such luck. We miss hearing your sweet voices. Just wanted to remind you we think about you everyday, wondering how you're doing. We love you so much and miss you a lot. Take care, little angels! From your family in Chisasibi. Please give us a phone number how to reach you. Love and Prayers!!

**Mother's Day Greetings** going out to my wonderful mother, Beatrice G. Mayappo. Mom. your strong words of wisdom & knowledge consistently touch & amaze me in every way, encouraging me through life in each challenging phase. Mom, you mean so much to me, what more can I possibly say, except that I can only hope to be the person you are. Happy Mother's Day Mom! All my Love: Stephanie & Felicia Gilpin

**Mother's Day greeting** goes out to my most wonderful aunties, Rita Gilpin & Agnes Gilpin, may this special day bring you all the happiness you both deserve not just today but throughout the whole year. I feel that I am truly blessed to have such wonderful aunties that I can count on and thanks for being there for me and for making my life so wonderful in every way; you both bring out the best of me. I

hope you enjoy your day! Although I won't be there to celebrate with you ladies, but I'll be thinking of you both. Love: Stephanie G.

**Happy Mother's day** to my awesome, terrific and coolest grandmother, Beatrice G. Mayappo, you deserve to have a special day like today because you're a terrific grandmother. There is no greater love than a grandmother's love, you make life meaningful in everyway, grandmothers have eyes like an eagle, nothing can escape their vision, and they know how to kiss all the pain away when I fall down and hurt myself. You spend extra time in doing things for me and for that I am grateful. You let me stay up an hour extra on a school night when mom sends me to bed. You don't laugh at my mistakes when I read you a bedtime story; I want to let you know I LOVE YOU VERY MUCH! I wouldn't ask for a better grandmother because I already have one of the best grandmother's that anyone can ask for. Secondly, I would like to wish my second mommy, Rita Gilpin a happy Mother's day, whom I love so so much, thanks for being there for me!...All my hugs & kisses-Felicia Gilpin.

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